

132. THE BUTCHER'S ROW (V)

Wilbur Neal, V, 1948, JB.



The title of this piece is a floater, appearing to different tunes in Harding AR, No. 34 and Messer, No. 9. As Neal pronounces it, the word "Row" is sounded like "now." The tune is a classic example of an old-country reel in its phrasal organization of repetitions and alternating cadences; but I have not been able to trace many sets of it. One tune that seems a clear version is the reel *Far from Home*, appearing in O'Neill MI, No. 1261 and Kennedy FTB 2, p. 11. There is quite a bit of resemblance between the first part of this and the first of the *Root Hog or Die Jig*, from a MS of the 1840s to the early 1850s: see Nathan Dan Emmett, p. 347; but Nathan gives no confirmation of whether Emmett did or did not compose this blackface-minstrel piece. Also related to our No. 132, with especial resemblance in the first part, is O'Neill MI, No. 1261 (O'Neill DMI, No. 520). Is the first part of our No. 411 also a development out of these strains?